Development of Ajmer and Pushkar in Rajasthan

†768. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1770 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th August, 2003 and state the progress so far made with regard to the development of the Dargah area of Ajmer and Pushkar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): The details of projects sanctioned by the Department of Tourism for development of Dargah area of Ajmer and Pushkar are as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of project	Amount sanctioned	Amount released	Name of Executing Agency
1.	Integrated Development of Pushkar	261.43	261.43	ITDC
2.	Dormitories, tent Platforms and Sulabh Sauchalaya at Pushkar	238.57	238.57	CPWD
3.	Construction of Vishramsthali at Dargah Sharief at Ajmer	187.00	187.00	CPWD

The progress of work as reported by the Executing Agencies *i.e.* ITDC and CPWD are as under:—

1. **Integrated Development of Pushkar**: ITDC is working on 44 Ghats. For 23 Ghats work is in progress and likely date for completion of work for these 23 Ghats is December, 2004. Work for balance 21 Ghats are under tendering and are expected to be awarded shortly.

2. **Dormitories, tent platforms and Sulabh Sauchalaya at Pushkar**: The work has been given to CPWD. Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation appointed a Consultant for preparation of drawings and the same are ready but yet to be approved by RTDC for execution of work. The site survey plan and other related details have already been supplied by CPWD to Consultant. The work will be started within two months of the approval of drawings.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

3. **Construction of vishramsthali at Dargah Sharief at Ajmer**: The work of site survey, soil testing for foundation, preparation of master plan etc. have been completed. Also architectural drawings for Dormitory, Kitchen, Dining, Toilets and Guest House have been prepared by Senior Architect of CPWD. The same have been submitted to the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation and Dargah Committee for necessary approval. The approval is still awaited. After getting approval, the tender process will be started. The work will started within two months of the approval of drawings.

Schemes to attract foreign tourists

†769. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have attracted the maximum number of foreign tourists during the last three years;

(b) the details of the schemes implemented by the Central Government to attract the foreign tourists;

(c) the profit earned by the tourism sector from the said schemes; and

(d) the percentage of the tourism sector out of the total foreign revenue earned by the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) According to estimated figures, maximum number of visits by foreign tourists were recorded in the State of Maharashtra during the years 2001 and 2003. However, during 2002, the number of visits by foreign tourists were maximum in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(b) The Department of Tourism, Government of India carries out tourism promotion activities overseas through its 13 foreign offices. The department helps in creation of tourism infrastructure through its schemes of Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits and Products/Infrastructure and Destination Development. Besides, the Department of Tourism also carries out human resource development activities through Institutes of Hotel Management and under the scheme of Capacity Building for service providers.

(c) With the implementation of the above schemes and also due to the other measures taken, the estimated foreign exchange earnings through

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.